

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01
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O P 281500Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7402
INFO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LOME PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NY PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 5551

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG LI
SUBJ: BELGRADE NONALIGNED CONFERENCE - LIBERIAN MINISTER DENNIS'S
VIEWS ON OAU SUMMIT AND THE BELGRADE NAM CONFERENCE

1. USUN OFFICER DISCUSSED KHARTOUM OAU SUMMIT AND
THE CURRENT BELGRADE NAM MEETING WITH LIBERIAN FOREIGN
MINISTER DENNIS LATE JULY 27.

2. OAU: DENNIS CONTENDED THAT IT WAS EFFORTS BY
HIMSELF AND LIBERIAN PRESIDENT TOLBERT THAT HAD
GOTTEN MINISTER KODJO ELECTED SECRETARY GENERAL OF
THE OAU. IN ALL THE BALLOTING, HE SAID, THE "SO-
CALLED PROGRESSIVES WHO OPPOSED US COULD NEVER MUSTER
MORE THAN 10 OR 15 VOTES. THEY DIDN'T PUT FORWARD
A CANDIDATE OF THEIR OWN." USUN OFFICER THANKED
DINNIS FOR THE LATTER'S INTERVENTIONS AT KHARTOUM
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ON BEHALF OF MODERATE SOLUTIONS. DENNIS REPLIED THAT
LIBERIA'S ROLE AS AN HONEST BROKER IN PAN-AFRICAN
POLITICS IS DEFINITELY INCREASING. JUST THAT DAY, HE
SAID, HE HAD ENGINEERED A COMPROMISE BETWEEN THE
FOREIGN MINISTERS OF BENIN AND GABON ON THE
POTENTIALLY EXPLOSIVE QUESTION OF BENIN REFUGEES
RECENTLY EXPELLED FROM GABON. THE THREE HAD THEN

TAKEN THEIR COMPROMISE TO BELGRADE CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN
VRHOVEC FOR APPROVAL BY THE NAM.

3. NAM. DENNIS SAID THAT THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE
IS DEFINING AND SOLIDIFYING THE NAM'S MIDDLE GROUND.
HE WAS AMAZED THAT "SO FAR IT HAS BEEN SO EASY." HE
NOTED THAT THERE HAD BEEN MANY IMPLIED CRITICISMS OF
CUBA IN THE GENERAL DEBATE BUT ADMITTED HE WAS NOT
INFORMED AS TO WHAT IS GOING ON IN THE POLITICAL
COMMITTEE.

4. US SUPPORT FOR LIBERIA. AS HE OFTEN DOES,
DENNIS WOUND UP THE CONVERSATION BY URGING THE UNITED
STATES TO MAKE LIBERIA A "SHOWCASE FOR DEMOCRACY IN
AFRICA." HE SAID HE AND PRESIDENT TOLBERT ARE
DISAPPOINTED AT THE SLOW REACTION OF THE USG TO THEIR
RECENTLY SUBMITTED LIST OF PRIORITY AID PROJECTS.
(COMMENT: THIS LIST APPARENTLY IS THE ONE INCLUDING
REQUESTED IMPROVEMENTS FOR ROBERTS FIELD AND THE ROAD
TO IT.)
EAGLEBURGER

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